GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:892
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2008
EXPORT OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of India's share in world export trade in agricultural products;

(b) whether the total volume of farm exports is still very low;

(c) if so, the details of items exported during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken to boost the farm exports?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (c) India's share in the world export trade in agricultural products is about 1%. Agriculture exports had shown improvement over the last few years and increased by 26.1% in 2006-07 over 2005-06.However,the percentage share of agro and allied exports to country's total exports remains at the same level at 9.90% over this period.During the year 2006-07 agro exports were Rs. 56612.78 crore whereas during 2005-06 these were at Rs. 45181.38 crore. The details of exports of major commodities during the last three years is Annexed.

(d) The Government of India's strategy is influenced by the need to maximize farm incomes, safeguard national food security, generate foreign exchange and ensure availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices to the Indian consumers. The Government has been promoting agro-exports both directly and through statutory bodies like the Agricultural & Processed Food Export Development Agency(APEDA), Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards. In order to boost export of agro products, the Government provides various incentives through APEDA, Commodity Boards/Export Promotion Councils for infrastructure development, quality and quality control, market development and promotion, packaging, publicity, information dissemination etc. In addition, vigorous efforts are also being made to gain access for our agri products through conclusion of SPS protocol with China, Japan and other important importing countries.